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News you can use, news you can trust

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New program recycles to aid charity

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Instead of stowing away used electronics or disposing of them in a landfill, people can try a new approach that can benefit the environment and people in need.

This holiday, donating an old cell phone or ink cartridge could bring a new gift to someone in need through area aid organizations and a new program: Recycling for Charities.

Recycling for Charities is a non-profit organization with the primary goal of keeping electronic waste out of landfills. It allows individuals or businesses to donate old electronics to be recycled. In turn, the program benefits not only the environment, but also local and national charities and the donors, according to Tara Armbruster,

director of events and fundraising for the organization.

"It's a cause tied to a charity and a great way to give back to the community," she said. "I think everybody has that point where they want to give back and this really helps everybody."

Founders Peter Garbowski and Dwight Zahringer started the organization earlier this year when they realized there was a need to recycle electronic waste.

"Small electronics have a lot of metals and plastics that are harmful to the environment and can be harmful to drinking water and the human body. Recycling them makes sure they are melted down and these toxins don't reach the landfills," said Armbruster.

Items collected through Recycling for Charities include:

old wireless cell phones, pagers, digital cameras, PDAs, Palm Pilots, iPods and other small electronics. Computers are not accepted for recycling, but can be donated to an area charity.

Recently, Visteon in Van Buren Township joined as a partner in a permanent "e-waste" recycling program, which will enable employees at the Visteon Village to donate unwanted electronic items to recycle and benefit charities. For every item recycled, a donation will be made to a charity of Visteon's choice benefiting from the donations on a quarterly basis.

"Visteon is happy to support the environmental efforts of recycling for a charity," said Chris Walton, executive for communications of Visteon. "The e-waste program achieves two objectives that are critical to our

corporate mission: environmental management and protection and giving back to the community in which we do business."

"This is a new and innovative program that we decided to see how it would turn out," Walton added. "We will continue to do so as long as we can."

For more information, to donate or to see how a business can get involved, call 248-582-9229 or visit the recycling for charities website at www.recyclingforcharities.com.

"It's a great program that I hope a lot of others will get involved with as well," said Armbruster. "It's a great way to get involved without making a financial donation, too. We also welcome any schools, churches or other non-profit organizations where we know the donation is going to go to the right place."

New Arrival



Jordan Ray Brooks Huffman

Jordan Ray Brooks Huffman

Patrick Huffman and Victoria Stephens became the parents of a son, Jordan Ray Brooks Huffman Nov. 19.

The new arrival weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces at birth and was 19 1/2 inches long.

He will be welcomed by siblings Glenn, 23, Kristy, 27, Mike, 32, Rylee, 9, Chris 22 and Whitney, 16.

Maternal grandparents of the infant are Glenn and Debi Stephens. His paternal grandparents are Karen Huffman and Art and Lisa Huffman of Wayne.

Great-grandparents are Joe Szumski of Westland, Melvin and Joyce Stephens of Westland and Patricia Benette of Wayne.

Athena award to feature selected nominees sought by group

The Women of Westland (WOW) are searching for a modern-day equivalent of the goddess Athena—a champion of powerful women and of the community—for the Westland ATHENA Award.

This will mark the second time WOW has presented the award, which was formerly operated by the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

The ATHENA award has three specific criteria. First, the man or

woman selected for the award must demonstrate 'excellence, creativity, and initiative in their business or profession.' Second, they must 'contribute time and talent to help improve the quality of life for others in the community.' And finally, the award winner will also need to demonstrate a history of 'assist(ing) women to realize their full leadership potential.'

In addition, she said that there

must be a Westland connection of some kind—either the person nominated must live or work in the community or the individual who nominated them must reside in Westland.

The ATHENA award will be presented at the Second Annual Westland ATHENA Award Chocolate Fantasy Evening on Feb. 11. In addition to the honoring of the winner, the event will feature a strolling dinner, live

entertainment, a silent auction, and a decadent chocolate fantasy dessert presentation.

Individuals who would like nomination forms, additional information requests should contact the Women of Westland at (734) 467-9113. In order to qualify, all nominations must be received by Jan. 27. Tickets for the pre-Valentine's Day Chocolate Fantasy Evening are also available for \$75 each.

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YMCA looks for participants for at home pre-school

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Parents looking for an alternative to conventional pre-school programs may have found an answer in the western Wayne County YWCA Michigan School Readiness Program.

A discussion of the program is planned at a breakfast called Operation: Kids Count on Jan. 3 at Park Place, 23400 Park St. in Dearborn.

The program is open to all students living in western Wayne County, said Karen Murphy, the

chief executive officer of the YWCA of Western Wayne County.

"This is a unique program because the children get so much individualized attention from their teachers, and the parents are also actively involved in their child's preschool education," she said.

The purpose of the breakfast is for parents to learn about the Michigan School Readiness Program curriculum and activities, and how it differs from traditional pre-school. The first 100 guests who register by tomorrow will receive a special gift, Murphy

said.

The main difference between the YWCA program and regular pre-school is that the Michigan School Readiness Program is home-based. Teachers come right to the child's home for class, which is scheduled around the parent's work schedule, which makes it more convenient.

Socialization experiences are scheduled each month in a preschool classroom. While there, children have play time, story time, eat snacks, and participate in many educational activities.

Field trips take children, par-

ents, and their teachers to places like the cider mill, library, bakery, fire station, police department, and post office. Occasional classes and activities will take place at the YWCA Michigan Avenue facility in Inkster.

Recently during a center visit, children painted holiday pictures, played dress-up, and listened to a holiday story.

During center visits, parents of the children enrolled in the program have a meeting with teachers to discuss the student's progress, and where additional help may be needed. Different

issues surrounding parenting and education are discussed so parents can better understand their role in keeping their children engaged during school.

Childhood education experts are frequently brought in as guest speakers, so parents can address more specific education and behavior concerns regularly.

To register for the YWCA of Western Wayne County's Michigan School Readiness Program Operation: Kids Count breakfast, or for more information about the program, call the YWCA at (313) 561-4110.



They're with the band

The Romulus Band Boosters raised \$1,000 to benefit the high school and junior high school bands at a craft sale last week. The money will help pay for transportation, uniforms, instruments and other equipment and services needed to keep the band marching. From left to right are: Christina Lefler, Bernice Jewell, Karen Britt, Theresa McLachlan, Lynn Sears and Larry Baxter.

Carr - Finances are still an issue

FROM PAGE 1

awards for academic achievement. The schools have won five Michigan Association of School Boards awards from various programs, a Muth Education Award, five RESA (Regional Educational Service Agency) awards, and two "Education, Yes!" awards. Barth Elementary School was designated a State of Michigan "Blue Ribbon School."

Carr said his biggest disappointment is the fact that school districts have not been able to adequately address school funding.

"We have tried to operate without a raise for a long time, and it's becoming more difficult to reach our goals," he said. "Pensions and other obligations have gone up. These are our kids that we're talking about. They're our future."

Carr - the father of two sons who has been married for 40 years - will officially retire in June 2006. He's building a home in Naples, Fla., and said he's ready to kick back.

"I have my toys," he said. "I have an antique car. My wife and I are both professional people - we've worked hard. We're going to try to relax a little."

Stress - Stories create more questions

FROM PAGE 1

Newburgh Road.

Councilman William Wadsworth said the fire is likely to be remembered by residents as a huge inconvenience. But for city officials, the explosion has come to symbolize something else.

"It taught us that you can never be off guard when you have industrial facilities in your community, because you never know when something will happen," he said. "EQ recycles products and actually performs a really worthwhile service, and they've been here for 50 years and never had an incident. But you have to be prepared when something does happen, and I think we were."

The fire was the biggest public emergency since Flight 255 crashed on takeoff at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport in 1987.

But the Northwest strike - which could affect up to 300 Romulus families - could be another sort of disaster for the city.

Several homes are going up for sale in the community, and some officials believe that striking workers could leave the city for good. Also, about 1,000 homes are being constructed in the city, and the effect of the strike upon those home sales is still determined.

Northwest Airlines is the second largest employer in the city - behind General Motors. Northwest has hired replacement mechanics from outside companies - some of whom worked for other airlines and

It taught us that you can never be off guard when you have industrial facilities in your community, because you never know when something will happen.

**Councilman
William Wadsworth**

others who were trained under the airline tutelage - to do the work of the mechanics. It is not clear how many of the strikers have crossed the picket line, or how many have left the area to pursue other opportunities.

Many issues with EQ are also still unresolved.

A group of lawyers convened on the area shortly after the explosion, and many class action lawsuits have been filed against EQ. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a report of the contents of the fallout, which revealed that the levels of toxins in the explosion would not cause permanent injury.

Also, investigators were not able to immediately determine what caused the blast. But advanced testing may be able to determine if the chemicals at the plant - mainly aircraft cleaning fluid, motor oil and other fluids - were stored properly on the site.

2005 - Jobs, recreation center in focus for New Year

FROM PAGE 1

it's essential that Romulus residents be considered for the jobs gaming will bring to the city.

"I would say that it is very important that job opportunities that come into the city be available to the people who live here," she said. "I would also hope that these are not just low-paying jobs; they need to be the type of thing you can support your family on if you get laid off from a job."

The city also laid the groundwork for a new recreation facility. In January, the city acquired the former Overhead Crane Co. facility at Wayne and Northline Roads for \$1.9 million. Later, city officials signed a deal for an additional 5 acres surrounding the building.

The cost of the building, renovations and some infrastructure work will be paid for using Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA) funds, which means taxpayers will not have to pay additional taxes for the new center. Renovations that

are currently under way will expand the facility from about 40,000 square-feet to about 70,000. A grand opening will take place in fall 2006.

A piece of history was also lost in 2005, though many

I still think there's a definitive link between the automotive industry and the manufacturing sector in the city.

**Councilman
William Wadsworth**

weren't upset to see it go. The 39-year-old Davey Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport was torn down in October to pave the way for a more technologically-advanced terminal that airport officials say will better serve travelers.

Once the largest pretensioned concrete structure in the world, the Davey Terminal was an imposing, rock-like presence on the airport grounds and is credited for bringing Detroit into the jet age, and making the area a more desirable place to conduct business by improving accessibility. But it was built to serve 5 million passengers per year. In 2005, it served 35 million, according to airport records.

For all the success that's been enjoyed this year, some officials believe the city needs to be on guard regarding the sluggish state economy and the tepid manufacturing climate. This year, city council members approved three tax abatements to industrial companies to keep them within the city.

"I still think there's a definitive link between the automotive industry and the manufacturing sector in the city," said Wadsworth. "I don't think we're going to lose a lot of businesses, but it's something we need to keep an eye on."

OPINION

The good, the bad and the 'just goofy'

It's inevitable. As a new year dawns, we can't help but look back at the events and people that shaped our communities.

There has been plenty to watch, talk and opine about, too, from the efforts to help strangers overcome natural disasters to the people locally who have striven to make our community a better place. Here's a look at the good and bad things that happened – as well as the downright peculiar – during 2005 as compiled by our writers.

In Belleville:

The good: The Van Buren Public School District still hasn't given up the fight for a new high school and a better curriculum for the students, which is why they proposed another bond issue this year. Sure, voters shot down last year's bond request, but the administrators didn't give up. Thanks to more community effort and input, a better approach to the issue was taken with several town hall meetings, more feedback and a cheaper bond proposal. Hopefully, it will pay off in the end for the students.

The bad: Mother Nature took over the waters of Belleville Lake this summer during a severe storm that ripped through in July and ended in tragedy when two men swimming in the lake drowned. The victims—32-year-old Jeffery Todd Woods of Belleville and 28-year-old Trent Rush of Detroit—will always be remembered not only this holiday season, but every day.

The goofy: The saga continues...for the Central Dispatch Network that is. The debate about whether or not Belleville and Sumpter Township will continue police dispatch services in the city was a huge story this year, as it was during the past three years. It's still not clear whether the voters turned down the November millage that could have funded dispatch because they don't want to pay more or that they weren't quite sure what they were voting for. Either way, the vote was turned down for some odd reason. Will a final decision ever be made on this issue? Only time, and money, will tell.

Inkster:

Good – The Rev. Savannah Johnson of Pentecostal Temple, organized a non-violence rally on Dec. 9 to help bring attention to the escalating level of murders in the city. Sometimes grassroots efforts are needed to help make a community safer.

Good – Ronnie Mathews, who is still plugging away with the Male Mentoring Program, which meets each Wednesday to help steer young men in the right direction.

Bad – Any public official who engaged in damaging, public race-baiting in 2005. Diversity is an important goal in any community, and the most diverse of communities – the cities of Southfield and Ferndale come to mind – are successful because they decided that every one, no matter what their point of view, was welcome.

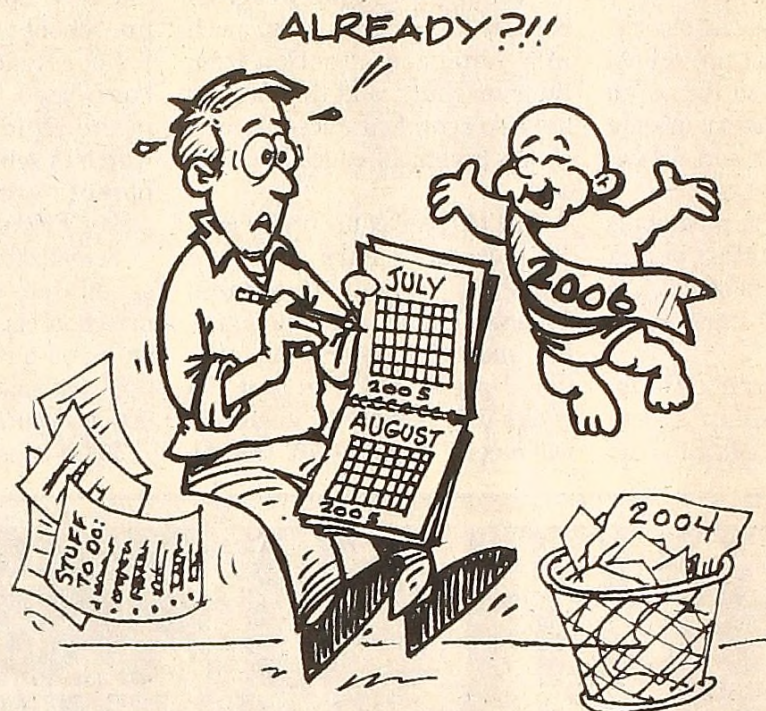
Romulus:

The Good – Former City Council members Debbie Romak and Mike Prybyla, both of whom served the city for more than a decade with little or no fanfare. We hope they'll continue.

Also Good – Linda Norman, who worked hard to bring a wealth of senior activities to residents – some of whom cannot afford to join clubs or partake in activities others take for granted.

The Bad – Any and all residents who called to hurl unsubstantiated accusations against 2005 election candidates. Those allegations included spousal abuse, infidelity, failure to pay personal mortgages and other bills, and homosexuality – none of which makes a differ-

See **Good, Bad**, page 5



Gazing into my cloudy crystal ball

After looking through the 'predictions' I made in my final column of 2004, I came to one conclusion: my crystal ball needs some work.

I predicted many things that laughingly did not come true and others that sadly, did.

In Wayne, for example, I pointed to work being done – finally – at the old Mad Anthony's restaurant as a sign that development was taking over many old, ramshackle buildings. Twelve months later, little, if anything, else has been done on that building, which is now a pending case before the Dangerous Building board. I'm sure the old-timers here in Wayne got a chuckle out of that prediction, but hey, everything looked like it was moving forward a year ago. You can't blame a guy for being optimistic, can you?

I also predicted that Wayne voters would see a request for a tax increase and forecasted a lot to talk about during a busy campaign season. That didn't happen; the election was little more than a typical city council decision, a mere rubber-stamping by voters. The face of the council did change, but only because one of the council members moved out of town and the council appointed one of their buddies in his place.

One of the sad predictions that came true concerned the old Jamison Block building on Michigan Avenue, the blue-boarded, red-tiled former jewel on Michigan Avenue. I predicted that it

would be in the same state this year and it is, although not for the lack of effort on the part of the city. That case is currently pending an appeal from the dangerous building board after the city declared it was unsafe and should be torn down.

My Westland predictions went a little better, but that was probably because I didn't come out with anything bold and daring. I predicted a big change in the area surrounding Westland Mall, where several restaurants were, at the time, under construction. They proved a perfect complement for the mall and the burgeoning restaurant row along Warren Road – much like Planning Director Bruce Thompson and Mayor Sandra Cicirelli planned.

I predicted a tough battle for whomever opposed Cicirelli in her bid for re-election, and sure enough she won handily. I was a bit surprised, though, when the remainder of the city council didn't change.

My misses haven't caused me to forego the predictions again this year, in part because I enjoy making fun of myself and I can hardly wait to do it again next December. Still, it's a wiser – and a little sadder – prognosticator that makes these predictions:

See **Crystal ball**, page 5

At last, goodbye to not-so-great 2005

OK, so I don't have a crystal ball, premonitions or psychic powers of any kind, but for an amateur, my predictions from 2005 weren't too far off from what really happened in the Belleville area.

Looking back over the last year, one thing I predicted was a new school bond to come forward, get approved and begin the build of a new high school for the students. All right, maybe it was wishful thinking on my part, but I wasn't all wrong. There was more community involvement in the process, which led to the site selection and a cheaper bond proposal that will come to the voters this February.

Another 2005 forecast I seemed to get right was several developments that were to take shape, including the Horizon Park project and the Doane's Landing Park project. The Doane's Landing Park project was completed and Horizon Park should be right behind it with a 2006 completion date.

Van Buren Township also welcomed the start of a new fire station and the entire Belleville area celebrated their Centennial Anniversary with bigger and better festivals and events, which I also foresaw for this year.

Most significantly, I predicted a better year than the last. Boy was I wrong—on a personal level at least—so would it sound completely bitter if I said I'm glad this year is over?

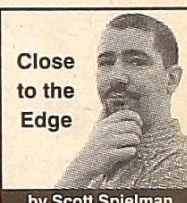
But getting back to the Belleville beat, what I

didn't anticipate for this year was what really stood out in the area. Here are the most memorable Belleville events of 2005: the first stages to a new and improved district library for the Belleville community; a \$111 million school bond proposal and site selection for the future high school students; the installation of the alternative education program for the Van Buren Public School District; the hire of a new Belleville Police Chief and the hope of hiring a new city treasurer; the state-wide school rally for an increase in funds; the first-ever Western Wayne County Senior Olympics with Van Buren Township as the host community; the start of the construction for the first Habitat for Humanity house in Van Buren Township and the defeat of the November millage increase for the City of Belleville.

As for the Central Dispatch Network, I don't think even psychic Sylvia Brown can predict what will happen with that one.

For many people, the end of the year is a time to reflect back on the good that has come out of the last 12 months, what they have learned throughout these days, what can be changed for the better and what to be thankful for.

But for me, it's a time to say good-riddance to 2005 and thank God it's 2006.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman



King's Court

by Andrea King

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Letters

To the editor;

As we prepare for the upcoming New Year, the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows hope every family has the happiest of holidays.

Another year has been successfully done. As program coordinator for the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows, I personally would like to take this opportunity to send a special thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the program for 2005.

Over the past several months, the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows were able to make this Christmas brighter for over 100 local families and 185 children. This would not have been possible without your generous donations and support from the local residents, the business community and the Van Buren Public Schools for their help in collecting food and toys.

To all the senior citizens who hold classes in the craft room and dining room, a special thanks for allowing us to use the rooms again for toys and food.

A special thanks to the 34th District Court for allowing the community service

workers to once again assist with the program. We would also like to give a special thanks to French Landing Party Store (Sinar) for the donation of pizza and pop for the workers during this busy week.

All you help was greatly appreciated and it is friends like you that work together to make this program a success and make sure that 'No child goes without a Christmas.'

May this coming year be a time of peace and prosperity for you and your families.

Pam Fleming,
Program coordinator;
Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows

Send us your letters

The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters should be addressed to: The Editor, The Journal Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184. All letters should be signed and an address and phone number of the writer included only purposes of validating authenticity.

Good, bad

FROM PAGE 4

ence in a person's ability to serve their community.

Wayne:

The good: The city sharpened another tool to use in their ongoing battle against blighted and vacant buildings. The city ranks among the forefront of municipalities aggressively using the Dangerous and Blighted Building Ordinance, with several successes.

Also good: The city took steps, albeit occasionally small ones, to improve its image in 2005, with the extension of the downtown streetscape and the installation of Clock Tower Plaza. Improvement may be slow, but it's steady and that's a good thing.

The bad: Nobody could have predicted the long-reaching impact of the explosion at the EQ Resource Recovery plant. It was hardly anything city officials should be blamed for. It was hardly surprising that the law firms swooped down like condors, either.

The goofy: The scene at the Wayne Community Center was one of anticipation on Nov. 15. The audience was bolstered by several residents, hopeful to be appointed to fill out the remaining two years of an unexpired city council seat. Dressed to impress, they sat on the edge

of their seats as the item came up on the agenda. Their enthusiasm was quickly sucked away, though, as the council unanimously appointed their long-time friend Al Damitio to the post. At least the council read the other names - after Councilwoman Susan Rowe asked them to and after Damitio was already appointed.

Westland:

The good: Beautification of the city through the destruction of some of the worst eyesores in the area—first and foremost, Cooper School. Fewer blighted buildings have got to be good for property values. Kudos to the City of Westland and to the Livonia Public School District for finally making it happen.

The bad: Residents who don't spay or neuter their pets. The unwanted offspring fill the already troubled animal shelters and, after a stray cat with rabies was found in Westland earlier this year, more than a dozen people ended up receiving painful rabies treatments and 10 cats and kittens were euthanized. A sad situation all the way around—and what a waste.

The goofy: The Wayne-Ford Civic League is a privately owned organization, so why would the owners expect the Westland City Council to solve their problems? This drama took up all too much time at city council meetings last year. The members of the council have enough nonsense to deal with already in the course of doing their job—cope with it.

Crystal ball

FROM PAGE 4

In Wayne, development will continue to come to the city even if it's a little slower than some of the more impatient residents (like myself) would like. The impending residential project on Brush Street will break ground, at least, although those with high hopes for the city might be a bit disappointed at what the project ultimately looks like. The old Mad Anthony's and the Jamison Block building will continue to be thorns in the side of city officials, despite their efforts.

Will residents see a millage request this year? I think they should. City officials have talked about the deplorable condition of the roads for years now and said they simply don't have enough revenue to keep up with the work. They've got a plan to address the problem, but not the funding. It's a difficult climate to ask for a tax increase, but the sooner voters

weigh in on it, the more time officials will have to plan.

In Westland, there will be a crowded field of candidates seeking to replace State Rep. Glenn Anderson, who is term-limited. I hope it won't get too nasty, but wouldn't be surprised if it did.

We'll see a finalized plan for the old Cooper School site and the Jonna Development Co. might get a shovel into the ground, but there probably won't be a lot of construction there this year.

The city council will probably see a new president, too. I think Chuck Pickering is at a stage in his career where he'd be willing to take a step back and let someone new into the office. I've got a guess there, but I don't want to hurt his chances, so I'll keep it to myself.

That's what I think, but I'd be happy to hear about any reader predictions for the coming year, too. Send us a letter or drop me an email at editor@journal-group.com. Whatever it may be, I hope we're on the same page: any direction is OK, as long as we're moving forward.

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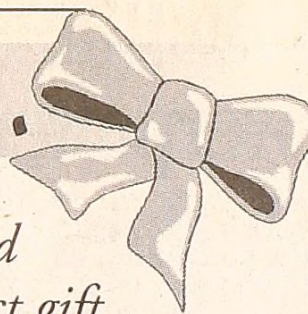
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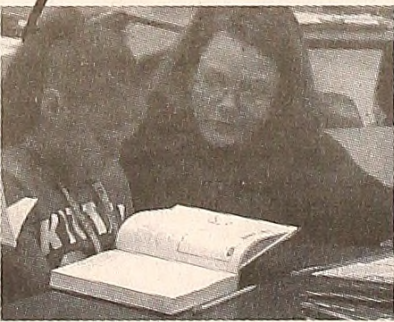
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SPORTS

Passion, commitment earn Baechler Sports Newsmaker of the Year

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Every now and then an entity comes along and takes the sporting world by storm. Be it a single athlete, coach or an entire team, this driving vessel of athletic force leaves a mark by accomplishing unheard-of goals, surpassing expectations and overcoming adversity in the darkest of hours.

No, he's not a super hero—although his community may herald him as one—but Tim Baechler, the Canton varsity football head coach, has proven himself a good person and an even better coach in 2005, therefore, earning the honors of the Journal Newspapers' Sports Newsmaker of the Year.

Competition is expected in the arena of sports and it's nothing new to Baechler. And there was plenty of it for this esteemed title.

There were other coaches in the area that also had spectacular years, like Nate Oats – who led his Romulus varsity boys' basketball squad to state runner up honors in March after capturing district and

regional championships to get there.

There was Peggy Carr who, in her first year as the head coach of the Inkster Lady Vikings basketball team, took her team as far as the state semi-final rounds—winning conference and district accolades along the way.

And there was Greg Carter, first-year head football coach and athletics director at Inkster High School. He took a football team that only won two games combined in the two years prior to him taking over the program all the way to the regional championship game against Unionville Sebawaing. In the process the team won the first district championship and first regional tournament victory in the school's history.

Baechler ended his stellar season at Ford Field in the state championship finale. He and his Chiefs didn't win, but that doesn't matter—just making it to the big game is justification of how good his program is.

"It was huge just to make it there," he said. "It took me 17 years to get there. There are a lot of schools that may never get there at all. So, it was huge."



Although Tim Baechler had said he has had better teams in the past, it didn't stop him and his Chiefs from making it to the state finale at Ford Field. Photo by Andy Rubenstein

His team finished the season 10-2 prior to the championship match, winning the district crown for the second time in three years and the regional title for the first time in the school's history.

Canton lost two of the three games that starting quarterback Shawn Little was absent for and learned how to battle back from a deficit in the other—something they never had to do in their two previously undefeated seasons. Fighting from behind was an ability that the Chiefs needed again against Walled Lake Central late in the regular season and against Macomb Dakota in

the state semifinal.

"The kids just never stopped," he said. "They kept doing what we asked them to. The coaches made adjustments in the games that we were behind and we went with it, letting the kids play fast and loose."

Although it is an impressive resume for the season, the one thing that set Baechler apart from other coaches this year was another honor. He was named the head coach of the All Star East team in 2006—an honor for which he was nominated by and

See **Newsmaker**, page 7

Romulus overpowers Huskies

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Same time; different place... same outcome.

Last year, during the week before Christmas, Romulus hoopsters took on and defeated Pontiac Northern, 80-69, in Pontiac.

The only difference this year was the venue.

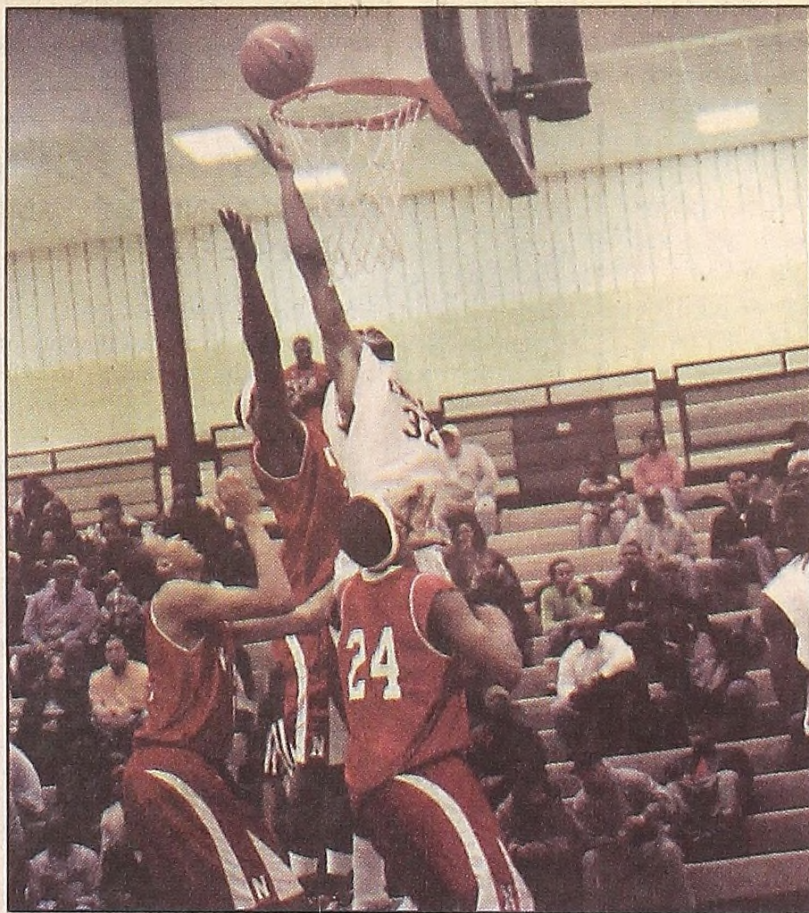
The Eagles put together another pre-holiday victory against the same team, but this time in Romulus.

After falling behind one point at the half, Romulus bounced back for a 70-60 victory against the Huskies.

"I thought that we handled the press pretty well except for a stretch in the second quarter," said Romulus Coach Nate Oats. "I thought without the stretch we were 15 to 20 points better."

Romulus started hot in the first quarter, taking a 15-7 lead at the end of it. Sophomore point guard Dominique Buckley knocked down eight of the teams' points in the series. After a three-game lull on the boards, Romulus' junior center Devin Searcy nabbed five defensive rebounds to help the Eagles take the lead.

"I thought Searcy was great on



Romulus' junior center Devin Searcy (32) tips in a basket in the Eagles' 70-60 home victory against Pontiac Northern last Tuesday.

the defensive boards," Oats said. "We challenged Devin before the game—he only had six defensive boards on the season. He had five in the first quarter so he definitely stepped up to the challenge."

The second frame was a different story. About midway through, the Huskies went on a 17-4 run, taking a 29-27 lead with less than a minute left to play. Northern's senior guard Martell Webb hit a deuce in the waning seconds of the half, making it a 31-30 game in favor of the Huskies.

Timothy Williams scored 10 in the quarter for Pontiac Northern.

Searcy scored eight of Romulus' 15 points in the second. Buckley's only other score of the game was a huge triple at the end of the period to put the Eagles up 30-29 for 11 total on the night.

The third quarter bounced the game back in favor of the Eagles.

Romulus went on a 13-4 run, taking a 47-39 lead that they maintained the rest of the way. They ended the second with a 49-44 advantage.

See **Eagles**, page 8

Robichaud coach goes 'Pro' Woods to head minor league team

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The International Basketball League's Detroit Pros will ring in the New Year – and new season – with a new coach.

The minor league Pros named Inkster's Warren Woods as the head coach for the 2006 season.

Last year's Pros coach, Michael Aaron, was moved up to director of player personnel, making room for Woods to move up from his assistant coach position.

"I've known Warren for about 25 years," said Pros' owner Darryl Greene. "He's always been a good motivator and very enthusiastic about basketball. He has a good coaching history. He's coached me and I've worked with him at several different camps and events and I've always thought of him as a good coach."

"He was an assistant last year," he added, "and was a huge asset to the organization and will be so this year, too."

Woods brings a wealth of knowledge to the International Basketball League (IBL) level. He has more than 18 years of coaching experience in the junior high and high school level and a year as an assistant for the Pros' inaugural season last year.

"I appreciate the opportunity," he said. "I'm looking forward to the Detroit Pros and feel confident that I can get the job done. Basketball is basketball at any level and I hope I can bring some

more organizational skills to the team."

Woods, an Inkster native, attended Dearborn Heights Robichaud High School, where he was a standout basketball and track student athlete before graduating and joining the United States Navy. He served from 1974-76.

He started his coaching career in basketball in 1988 at the Allen Junior High School. He moved up to assistant girls' varsity coach from 90-93, coached the freshmen basketball squad from 93-94 and was the junior varsity coach up until 1995 at Robichaud.

The following year, Woods dropped the freshmen team and concentrated on the junior varsity while assisting the varsity team until 2004.

He doubled as the girls' varsity coach during that time, starting from 1998, where he has remained ever since. Last year, in his first year as the girls' track coach, he led them to a conference championship. In 2002, he was named Coach of the Year in Region 4.

"I've had a lot of success and there are a lot of memorable moments to me," he said, "but the most memorable to me is getting my first opportunity to coach in 1988. That's when I had the my opportunity to work with kids and help them; I still have the picture of that first team."

Woods knows it is a big step

See **Woods**, page 7

SPORTS

Woods

FROM PAGE 6

and help them; I still have the picture of that first team.”

Woods knows it is a big step from high school to the semi-pro level, but he’s not worried.

“When you coach at the pro level you have to bring different things to the table,” he said. “I think if I can bring organization and discipline we’ll be ok. It’s a fundamental game and I’m a fundamental coach. I’m a players’ coach—I’m firm, but fair.

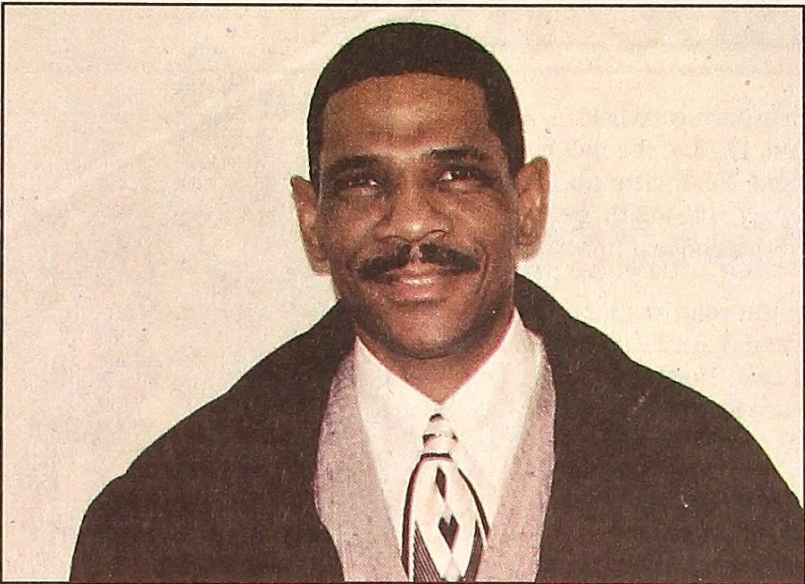
“As long as we play hard, play smart and play together we’ll be all right,” he added. “Those are the things needed to win...at any level.

“It’s not about having the five best players. It’s about having the five players that play best together.”

Woods will have long-time Robichaud assistant Renardo Brown in his corner assisting with the Pros.

Brown has plenty of experience as a player and coach, too.

He was runner up for the prestigious Mr. Basketball award in 1982 while at Highland Park High School. After high school he accepted a full-ride scholarship to West Virginia University from 1982-86. In 1987, he played for Savannah in the Continental Basketball Association. He served as head coach at Highland Park from 1994-97 and has worked with Woods since then.



The Detroit Pros hope Warren Woods can lead the organization to a productive season in 2006.

Greene is in contract negotiations with the Inkster Recreation Center to host all home games there in 2006.

“This is a good opportunity to bring quality entertainment to Inkster,” Greene said.

“Plus, it will provide additional opportunities for the recreation center.”

He said talks would continue after the first of the year. Although nothing is concrete, he also said he is working on a deal with local Comcast Cable to produce and televise all home games in the Metro Detroit area.

The games could highlight some impressive players not yet discovered by the National Basketball Association (NBA).

Woods will have the likes of returning Pro Albert White, a University of Michigan standout, and newbies Al Williams and Jaquan Hart to work with as far

as players go.

Hart, hailing from Flint Northern High School, was Mr. Basketball runner up in 2001. He went to Ohio State University for a year before transferring to Eastern Michigan University from 2002-2004. He declared himself eligible for the 2004 NBA draft and worked out with the Toronto Raptors as an undrafted rookie.

Williams played professional ball in the American Basketball Association (ABA) and the international LNBP league.

“I’m looking forward to working with the guys,” Woods said. “If we practice hard that will translate to the games. The games are easy; it’s practice where they’ll have to work hard.

“It’s a different level and hopefully I can continue to teach them—that’s what I am: a teacher of the game.”

Newsmaker

FROM PAGE 6

coach of the All Star East team in 2006—an honor for which he was nominated by and voted for by his peers of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association.

“It’s a tremendous honor,” he said. “There’s a lot of good guys that finished behind me that are pretty good coaches. A lot of people don’t know that coaches from around the state and directors vote on it...so it’s quite a big honor.”

Once a Chief, always a Chief

Life tends to go full circle at times.

Baechler, who has a 99-43 record in his eight-year tenure as head of the Canton Chiefs, attended White Pigeon High School, where he was Chief.

He graduated as a White Pigeon Chief in 1985 and went to Adrian College, where he earned a degree in English in 1990. He went on to earn a Masters degree in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University.

As a coach, he made his start at Onsted High School where he spent two years as an offensive coordinator. In 1991, he moved back to his hometown and became a Chief again as the offensive coordinator for White Pigeon. The plan was to take over the head coaching position there, but he met his wife Julie and got married, which sent him to this side of the state looking for coaching jobs. He spent five years as the head coach at Hudson and then commuted to Dexter for a year as the head coach while living in Canton.

ried, which sent him to this side of the state looking for coaching jobs. He spent five years as the head coach at Hudson and then commuted to Dexter for a year as the head coach while living in Canton.

Baechler inevitably became a Chief again in the spring of 1998 when the Canton head-coaching job became available.

“I don’t think too many people wanted the job,” he said about competing for the Canton job. “I think they went 1-8 a couple of times and only had four winning seasons in school history.”

Baechler was the obvious choice to turn things around.

In his first year he improved Canton’s record from 1-8 to 3-6. The Chiefs went 4-5 in his second year. In the last six years, he has led the Chiefs to winning records including three conference championships, three district titles, a regional crown and was runner up this year in the state finale.

“It was kind of a strange,” he said about the season. “We started out strong, then Shawn Little was out and we had a lot of injuries on defense—the continuity wasn’t there and we weren’t sure what we had. We found out what we had—a group of fun-loving kids that loved to practice, never quit and played with all of their hearts. If they don’t play with heart it doesn’t matter what you do as a coach.”

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

Notice of Public Hearing
January 10, 2006

Community Development Block Grant Use of Funds

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing will be held by the Charter Township of Van Buren, Township Board at 7:30 p.m., January 10, 2006 at the Township Hall Board Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan, 48111

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the purpose of the hearing is to hear and consider comments from the public regarding the proposed use of Community Development Block Grant Funds for Fiscal Year 2006 –2007 for the following activities:

Community Services	\$22,500
Senior Services	\$61,000
Public Safety	\$22,100
Housing Rehabilitation	\$50,000
Planning	\$13,200
Administration	\$13,200
Total	\$182,000

These program activities will be administered in accordance with all of the guidelines of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made with advance notice. Please notify the Building and Planning Department at 734.699.8913

If you are unable to attend the public hearing you may submit written comments to the Township Clerk’s Office until 5:00 PM January 10, 2006.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren

Publish: December 29, 2005

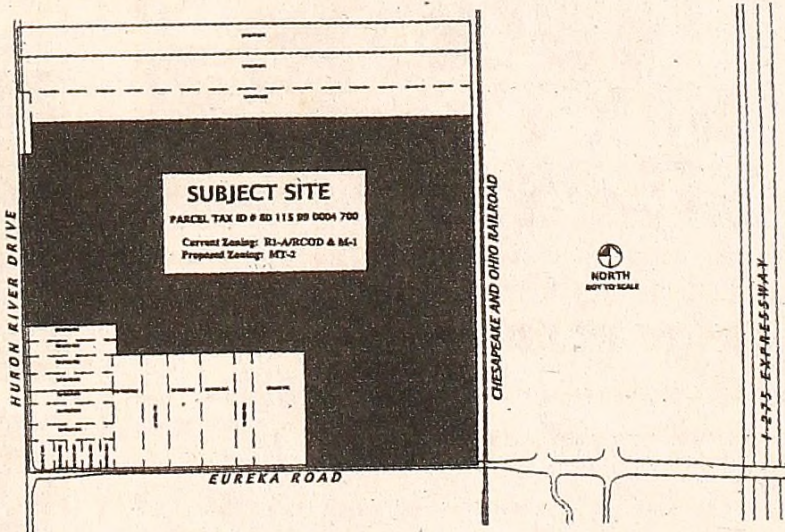
CITY OF ROMULUS

PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 207 of 1921, as amended (The City and Village Zoning Act), notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2006, for the purpose of considering a proposed amendment to the Zoning Map. The public hearing will be held at the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

The Planning Commission has set the public hearing to consider a request to rezone approximately 1.8602+- acres of R1-A, Single Family Residential/RCOD, Rural Character Overlay District and 88+- acres of M-1, Light Industrial District DP’s#, 82-80-115-99-0004-700 to MT-2, Industrial Transportation 2 District. The subject site is located on the north side of Eureka between Huron River Drive and Wayne Roads. Copies of the application are available for review at City Hall during regular business hours.



All interested parties are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request. Written comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon, Wednesday, January 18, 2006, and should be addressed to Cynthia I. Lyon, AICP, City Planner, Economic Development Department, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

Linda R. Choate, CMC,
City Clerk City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: December 29, 2005

SPORTS

In the brief

Belleville set for Holiday Hoops

Belleville will play in the 2005 Meijer Holiday Hoops Invitational at Michigan State University's Breslin Center at 8 p.m. today. Tickets will cost \$7 and will be good for the entire day—five games, starting at noon. Tickets for the event can be purchased at the Breslin Center. Net proceeds from the event will benefit the Coaches for Kids and Athletes 4 Kids Funds to build and operate a new emergency room at Sparrow Hospital.

Flag football registration to start soon

After a successful first season, the nonprofit Michigan Athletic Youth Association (MAYA) will start registration for their spring Flag Football season on Monday, Jan. 2 and last through April 1 at the Bailey Center in Westland.

Interested parents of 6-14 year-olds can register their children in one of four divisions: 6-8 year-old coed; 9-11 year-old coed; 12-14 year old girls; and 12-14 year-old boys. There will be two teams per division.

The Bailey Center is open for registration from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except holidays and can be reached at 734-722-7620. The fee is \$75.

Preseason is scheduled to start April 17 through May 6 and the regular season is scheduled to start May 13 and run through July 1.

Week in review:

Northville holds off Milford

A solid third quarter vaulted the Northville Mustangs past the Milford Mavericks, 50-38, last Monday night.

Northville junior Alvin Storrs led all scorers with

22 points—19 of them in the second half.

The 'Stangs trailed, 17-15 at the half but an 18-9 romp in the third put Northville up, 33-26. The momentum lasted through the fourth and the 'Stangs walked away with the victory. The win kept Northville undefeated at 2-0.

Northville is on the road with games against Dexter (today), Hartland (7 p.m., Jan. 3), Novi (7 p.m., Jan. 10) and Walled Lake Northern (7 p.m., Jan. 17) before they return home for a 7 p.m. match-up against John Glenn on Jan. 20.

Glenn loses two at North Farmington

The John Glenn hoopsters didn't fair well at the North Farmington pre-holiday tournament.

Glenn lost to host North Farmington, 55-35, last Monday. Robbie Jones led the team effort with 10 points.

They fell to Detroit Southwestern, 81-43, on the following day. Jones scored 12 for Glenn.

The Rockets head to Belleville for a 7 p.m. tip off on Friday, Jan. 6.

Canton splits week

The Canton Chiefs started last week with a 73-57 loss at Ann Arbor Pioneer on Tuesday and a 46-41 victory at Troy Athens last Thursday before the holiday break.

Against Pioneer, sophomore forward Neil Sharma led the team with 14 points. Andre Bridges scored a team-high 17 points against Athens.

Canton is off until Jan. 10, when they host Redford Union at 7 p.m.

Haslett 51, Plymouth 45

Plymouth's Josh Le Duc scored 13 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in the loss to Haslett at the Chelsea Invitational last Tuesday. Plymouth hosts Adrian at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Allen Park 59, Salem 47

Salem lost to host Allen Park in the semifinal of the Allen Park Christmas Classic. Grant Stone led Salem with 10 points. Salem is off until 7 p.m. on Fri., Jan. 12 when they head to Canton.

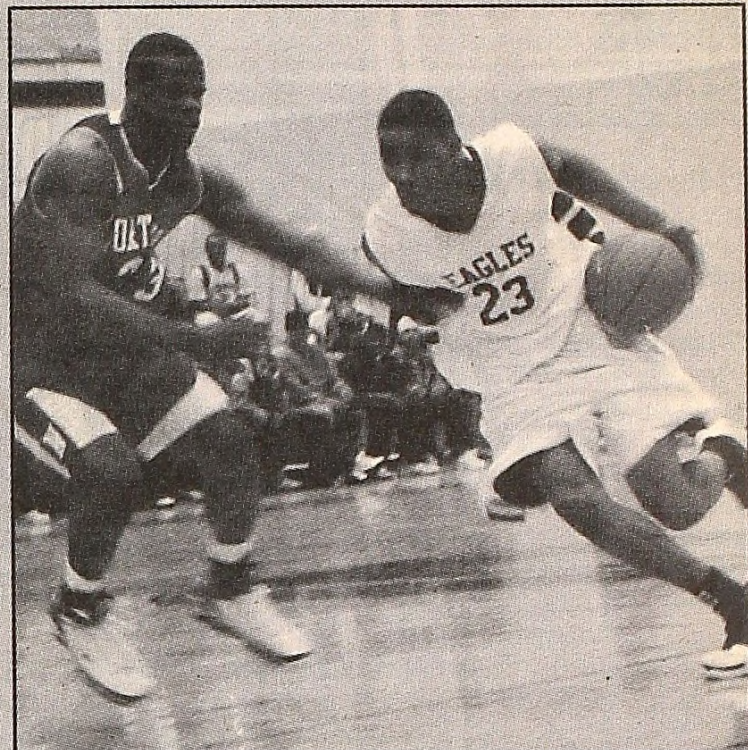
Inkster tops Willow Run, 76-43

Inkster's Renty Rollins and Jonathan Brown each scored 14 points to lead their Vikings to a 76-43 trouncing against Willow run last Tuesday.

Inkster Jumped ahead, 45-22, at the end of the first half and carried the momentum through to the end.

Rollins completed a double-double with 11 rebounds. Brown grabbed nine boards and Antonio Green scored all eight of his points in the fourth quarter.

Inkster heads to the University of Detroit Jesuit Tournament today.



Tommie Clark (23) tries to slide past Pontiac Northern's press on his way to a team-leading 26 points.

Eagles

FROM PAGE 6

Senior forward Tommie Clark was the difference maker in the third. He scored 12 points in the session, including a tricky lay-up after a spin move under the net.

"I thought we came out in the third quarter and played well," Oats said. "Then we had a bit of a stretch where we let them back in it but we closed that off real well.

"Tommie was great," he added. "He hit huge shots. I don't know if I would let anyone else shoot some of those shots but he hit them. A lot of them were 'no-no-no' kind of shots but he made them."

Junior guard Roderick Walker led Romulus with nine points in the fourth quarter, helping his Eagles to a 70-60 victory.

Clark led all scorers with 26. He was a perfect 8-for-8 in the game from the charity stripe.

"I had to step up and show

my teammates that this is a big game and I came out having to play hard because I didn't start the first quarter," Tommie Clark said. "I had to contribute and make the team better and that what happened."

Searcy totaled 15; Walker added 12 and Buckley finished with 11.

Romulus will host Detroit Country Day at 3 p.m. tomorrow in the third game of its annual Winner Circle Classic tournament.

Detroit Crockett and Detroit Finney face off in the first game of session one at 11 a.m. followed by Detroit Mackenzie and Benton Harbor at 1 p.m. The Romulus game will conclude the first of two sessions. Session two is scheduled to start at 6:30 pm with a match-up against Detroit Northwestern and Dearborn Heights Robichaud and the Detroit King-Ypsilanti contest, starting at 8:30 pm, will conclude the event.

Tickets are \$5 for each session and will only be available at the door.



Northville's Alvin Storrs (31) lays in a basket for two of his 22 points last Monday night against Milford.

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"your words have made a difference in my life at times when I needed a lift."

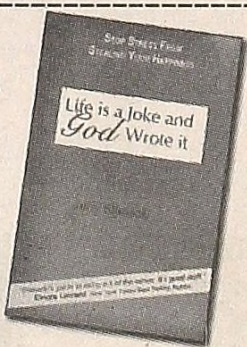
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THE SCENE

Not really much

Reviewed By
Kevin Hill
Staff Writer

Fun with Dick & Jane

Jim Carrey, in *Fun With Dick and Jane*, seems stuck. He's at his best (his Jim Carreyest) when he is either outrageously unhinged (*Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*) or clamped down and brooding (*Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*).

As Dick Harper, a white-collar suburbanite, he is caught in between the two, and languishes.

Some blame the actor's ego, but it just seems natural for a Jim Carrey movie to be just that, unhinged. As we "see Dick" for the first time, we expect to see some of the trademark craziness Carrey usually projects. Especially when Carrey steps onto the porch of his \$600,000 home, ready for the day, and flashes that toothy smile.

Eventually, Dick and Jane will turn to robbery to make their house payments, but in between, the movie becomes bogged down in lame situations. An extended plot device, where Carrey gets deported while trying to find work alongside illegal immigrants, falls surprisingly flat. It's only partially aided by his son in the movie, who takes after the Harpers' servant and adopts a Mexican accent and convinces authorities that his father isn't American. (After that, the kid is almost entirely ignored, to the point where it seems he was only written in for this single joke.)

Through all this, it's startling to see that Carrey, purposely or not, seems so toned down that Tom Hanks or Steve Martin or any capable actor could have filled the role.

In other words, this isn't a Jim Carrey movie.

Instead, *Fun With Dick and Jane* is about a married couple. Too bad the other half can't provide much support. Tea Leoni is OK as Jane, but she can't really cut it as a goofball sidekick to Carrey.

A larger problem is how the premise is handled. Dick and Jane are an upper-middle class husband and wife at the outset of the new millennium in a booming economy and in a seemingly perfect situation. We see Dick promoted at Globodyne, an Enron-like corporation set up for an Enron-like fall. Dick is the new VP of communications, and goes on TV just as it is announced that Globodyne's CEO, played dependably by Alec Baldwin, has sold off his stock and headed for the hills. Dick and Jane are soon in dire straits. He can't get another VP position and even his lawn is repossessed. Once they get an eviction notice, all bets are off as the two grab

squirt guns and go on a lighthearted crime spree.

The story is nothing but timely; though some might rightly argue that it's difficult to feel bad for fallen executives when so many people can't get even the most menial work.

If the movie leaves a sour taste in our mouths on that point, that's because it's hard to tell if the filmmakers are making fun of the wannabe super-rich or feeling sorry for them. It doesn't help when the final credits roll and included in the special thanks are Enron and WorldCom executives. A bit hypocritical, when we find that the movie's budget was more than \$100 million. And how much was Carrey paid? Is the film industry without greed?

The ending tries to push those feelings aside. But even as the "really" rich guy gets his comeuppance, it was hard to find much happiness in the outcome.

So Carrey gets to keep his lawn. Big deal.



THE SCENE

Rumor has it

That only Shirley MacLaine makes film worth ticket price

Imagine an episode of *The Jerry Springer Show* that lasts for nearly two solid hours—fighting, angst, twisted romances, intrigue, deception, and family secrets.

There you have *Rumor Has It*, a film that, like the Springer-esque morning talk shows, has a frankly disturbing premise and yet has a strong—if inexplicable—appeal.

The film revolves around Sarah (Jennifer Aniston), a writer for *The New York Times*—in the obituary section—who returns home to Pasadena, CA under duress for the wedding of her baby sister. To avoid stealing the bride's limelight, she decides to hold off on mentioning that she has become engaged to her long-time boyfriend, Jeff (Mark Ruffalo). Jeff is, theoretically, everything a girl could ask for—smart, funny, reasonably good looking, owner of a thriving law practice, head over heels in love with Sarah, and eager to commit.

Too bad Sarah has some problems, including a frostbite-inducing case of cold feet, which could screw everything up. Before she commits to anything, particularly marriage, she wants some time to deal with her massive supply of angst: who she is, where did she come from, what does she truly want out of life.

Then, out of the blue, Sarah trips over a potentially devastating secret: the antics of her mother and grandmother formed the basis for the book and film, *The Graduate*. When her mother, Jocelyn, was in high school, she had dated a guy

named Beau Burroughs (Kevin Costner) whom, in true 'Mrs. Robinson' style, Sarah's grandmother, Katherine (Shirley MacLaine) promptly seduced.

Left at that, the story would be sad enough, but there's only one small problem: Jocelyn later ran away from home and lived with Beau for the week before her wedding to Earl, her fiancé. Sarah was born less than 9 months after the wedding, so now she has even more questions—and fewer answers. Was the man she calls her father her biological parent? What made her mother run away? Why did she come back? Did she ever resent it? Now instead of pondering the meaning of life, she has to question what she really knows about her family, about her parents' marriage, and about the meaning of love. Unfortunately, Jocelyn died when Sarah was a child and Katherine—who refuses to respond to Grandma—isn't talking. So, Sarah heads out to find the answers from the only person who may know—Beau Burroughs himself.

Although he could have been her father and he definitely had an intimate knowledge of both her mother and grandmother, Sarah finds herself attracted to Beau. From there, things spiral out of control as Sarah searches for the clarity she needs to feel at peace with herself.

Aniston does a reasonably good job considering what she has to work with—namely, not much. Costner does an excellent job in keeping his character 'real' when it would have been easy to slip into the role of lecher or advice-filled father-fig-



ure. (He also gets bonus points for making a film that doesn't involve baseball in any way.) The real star of the show, though, is MacLaine. Her role is fairly small, yet every time her alcoholic, ornery, bossy character is in the scene—all eyes are upon her. She steals every scene, apparently without even trying. In fact, arguably the best scene in the entire film scarcely involves Aniston at all; it follows the Clash of the Titans style meeting

when Costner's character and MacLaine's character are reunited after 40 years.

Obviously, this is not the sort of film that will appeal to everyone, but for those who are considering it, MacLaine's performances alone would be worth the cost of admission.

The film, which has a running time of about 97 minutes, was rated PG-13. It was directed by Rob Reiner.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, January 17, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111 in the matter of application number VBT-05-043 BZA.

The application requests action by the BZA concerning an aggregate of parcels of land approximately 376.69 acres in area, all located within Section 4 of Van Buren Township, generally bounded on the south by and abutting the Van Born Road public right of way, bounded on the east by and abutting the Beck Road public right of way, bounded on the north by and abutting the Ecorse Road public right of way, and bounded on the west by and abutting the Belleville Road public road right of way, also known as the former General Motors Property. This application does not include the parcel known as 6820 Belleville Road, V-125-83-016-0007-000. The complete list of the parcel numbers in the application can be viewed at the Van Buren Township Department of Development.

The applicant is requesting the following:

A ZONING ORDINANCE VARIANCE FROM THE LAND USES REGULATED BY ORDINANCE 02-06-92, AS AMENDED; SECTION 15.02 PERMITTED USES IN THE M-1 ZONING DISTRICT; SECTION 15.03 PERMITTED USES AFTER SPECIAL APPROVAL IN THE M-1 ZONING DISTRICT; SECTION 16.02 PERMITTED USES IN THE M-2 ZONING DISTRICT; SECTION 16.03 PERMITTED USES AFTER SPECIAL APPROVAL.

The applicant seeks relief pursuant to Sections 20.829 and 20.833 of the Zoning Ordinance; however a preliminary issue is whether the BZA has jurisdiction to consider the application pursuant to Sections 20.830 and 20.831 of the Zoning Ordinance

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: December 29, 2005
Publish: December 29, 2005
January 5, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

Wayne County, Michigan

1954 PA 188 Proceedings

Notice of Street Lighting Special Assessment Hearing

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of petitions by the developer and property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose footage constitutes more than 50 percent of the total footage of the hereinafter described as **Country Walk Condominiums Phases 1 & 2 Street Lighting Special Assessment District** and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren proposes to purchase, construct and maintain street lights and to create a special assessment district for the recovery of the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited therein

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as follows: **Country Walk Condominiums Phases 1 and 2, 177 lots inclusive.**

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township has received a preliminary street lighting layout plan from Detroit Edison indicating **36** street lights to be constructed with an annual operating cost of \$11,179.16. This plan is on file at the Township Clerk's Office and is available for examination and will further be available at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing upon the proposed street lighting project design and cost will be held at the Charter Township of Van Buren Municipal Center at 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan, commencing at 7:30 p.m. on **January 10, 2006.**

At such hearing, the board will consider any written objections to any of the foregoing matters which might be filed with said board at or prior to the time of said hearing as well as any revisions, corrections, amendments, or changes to said Plans, Estimates and Costs or to said Special Assessment District.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place and to submit comments concerning any of the foregoing.

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations can be made available with advance notice.

Joannie Payne
Township Clerk
46425 Tyler Road
Belleville, MI 48111

Publish: December 22, 2005
December 29, 2005

FOOD

ROMULUS PUBLIC LIBRARY
11121 Wayne Road
Romulus, MI 48174
1 (734) 942-7589

enjoy a warm cup of Health and Vitali-TEA

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

Whether keeping New Year's resolutions for better health or keeping the harsh winter at bay, a refreshing cup of hot tea can warm the mind and body. Tea provides a powerful punch of flavonoid antioxidants, and as part of a healthy diet, regular tea drinking may help maintain a healthy heart. With 150 to 200mg per cup, tea provides more flavonoid antioxidants than a serving of broccoli, cranberry juice or orange juice. Some scientific evidence suggests that drinking three or more cups of black tea per day, as part of a low-saturated-fat and low-cholesterol diet, may reduce the risk of heart disease.

New flavors like Cranberry Pomegranate Green Tea and Decaf Honey Lemon Green Tea will revitalize you. Tea is not only delicious, but it's also a perfect source of natural goodness. With unique expertise growing and blending the best teas, no one knows how to unlock the goodness of the tea leaf like Lipton.

"Lipton has become the source of the best teas in the world by growing their own tea and conducting extensive research programs so you always enjoy a delicious cup," said Peter Goggi, Master Tea Taster for Unilever Foods, Inc.

Feel the difference of how drinking three cups of tea a day can help you live well at www.lipton.com.

In addition to its health benefits, tea has a tempting taste, with every sip satisfying even the most scrutinizing taste buds. Experiment with the following recipes to find a new twist on traditional tea:

Warm Apple Green Tea-ni

2 (8-ounce) servings
Prep time: 10 minutes
Calories: 110

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup apple juice
- 4 Lipton Decaffeinated Honey Lemon Green Tea bags
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- Apple slices (optional)

In small saucepan, bring water and apple juice to boil. Remove from heat and add tea bags; cover and brew 1 1/2 minutes. Remove tea bags; stir in sugar. Pour into tea cups and garnish, if desired, with apple slices. Serve hot.

Cran-a-Granate Toddy

4 (6-ounce) servings
Prep time: 10 minutes
Calories: 50

- 3 cups water
- 5 Lipton Cranberry Pomegranate Green Tea bags
- 1 (1 to 1 1/2-inch) piece fresh gingerroot, peeled (or 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger)
- 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar

In medium saucepan, bring water to boil. Remove from heat and add tea bags and ginger; cover and brew 5 minutes. Remove tea bags and ginger; stir in sugar.

Orange & Spice Chocolatea

2 (8-ounce) servings
Prep time: 10 minutes
Calories: 140

- 2 cups skim milk
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder
- 4 Lipton Orange & Spice Flavored Black Tea bags
- Whipped cream and chocolate curls (optional)

In medium saucepan, bring milk, sugar and cocoa powder to boiling point. Remove from heat and add tea bags; cover and brew 5 minutes. Remove tea bags. Pour into mugs and garnish, if desired, with whipped cream and chocolate curls.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 2005

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Herman, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Public Safety Director Champagne, Recreation and Facilities Director Ross, Water and Sewer Director Duha, Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley, Lieutenant Brooks, Secretary Cline and an audience of twenty-two (22).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Payne seconded to open the public hearing to consider the 2005 Amended General Fund Budget and the 2006 Proposed General Fund Budget. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Treasurer Budd for an explanation. Treasurer Budd thanked the Directors and the Board for their efforts in preparing the 2005 Amended and 2006 Proposed General Fund Budgets. The Budget before the Board is balanced as required by law. The proposed expenditures for the 2005 Amended Budget is \$11,679,505. The 2006 Proposed expenditures are \$13,050,491. Treasurer Budd requested that items A-F outlined in her memo dated November 10, 2005 be a part of the motion for the budget approval. Treasurer Budd stated the change in the Public Safety Department budget are funds transferred from the Fire Department capital outlay line item to the Police Department for the purchase of police vehicles; \$50,000 was placed back into the Reserve line for the future down payment on a ladder truck; refurbishment of a fire truck; and a new vehicle for the Fire Inspector.

Supervisor King stated Treasurer Budd has provided the Board with documents that set forth line items for expenditures for each department and explanations of designated fund balance. Supervisor King further stated the budget is an ongoing process that begins in June, with Treasurer Budd notifying all Department Directors to start compiling necessary documents for amendments to the current year budget and to prepare for the next fiscal year budget that begins in January. The only increase in staffing is in the Public Safety Department for a proposed traffic unit, which is on the agenda as an action item. Supervisor King stated the 2005 General Fund Amended budget has been reduced from what was originally budgeted by roughly \$96,000. The Charter Township Act requires charter townships to have an approved, balanced budget for the next fiscal year and last year was the first year state law allowed Charter Townships to approve their budgets in December. The proposed 2006 General Fund budget reflects about an 11 percent increase. The Public Safety Department is the largest department with an annual budget of just over \$6.5 million. The General Fund Budget covers the operations of the Township including Public Safety, which includes Police, Fire, Emergency Dispatch, Emergency Management and Animal Control, Developmental Services, Parks and Recreation, the administrative functions provided by the Clerk, Treasurer and Supervisor Offices, including Assessing, Elections, Accounting, Attorneys, Insurances and Environmental Services.

The Township has 1 mill for general operations of the township and the Public Safety Department has a 3 mill voter approved levy operates. The proposed 2006 revenue is roughly \$768,500 for general operation and approximately \$2.5 million for Public Safety. She noted that both of these revenues are rolled back by the Headlee Act. Supervisor King reviewed the other revenue sources such as registrations and licenses, permit fees, State Shared Revenue, property tax administration fees, park fees and the interest earned. She further stated the following transfers: \$3.3 million from the Landfill Fund; a half million from the Unreserved Fund Balance, and \$86,358 from the Reserved Fund Balance for the 2006 proposed budget. There are designated fund balances for funding insurance reserves, French Landing Dam, Fire Department equipment, computer networking, compensated absences and land purchases. Supervisor King also stated wage increases for salaried employees are set at 2 percent for 2006 and the Police Officers Labor Council (Command & Patrol) and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) unions are both currently in contract negotiations and therefore the wage increases are unknown with 2 percent being used. Public Safety Department goals and objectives are included in the budget as well as the department's funding sources. Lastly, Supervisor King highlighted the attachments as noted in Treasurers Budd memo A through F and budget preparation meetings were held in September.

Comments or questions from the Board. Trustee Hart requested Supervisor King provide an overview of State Shared Revenue. Supervisor King reviewed the history of State Shared Revenue, which formerly provided 25 percent of the revenue stream, has been reduced over the past several years with \$1.9 million budgeted for 2006 due to declining revenues from the State of Michigan.

Comments or questions from the audience. A resident inquired about wages and longevity pay for salaried and elected employees. Supervisor King stated longevity pay for salaried employees is \$250 per year of service and for the Trustees is \$125 per year of service. Treasurer Budd longevity was frozen after 25 years of service.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Hart moved, Herman seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Payne moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on the 2005 Amended Special Revenue Fund Budgets and the 2006 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Treasurer Budd for an explanation. Treasurer Budd stated the following are the Special Revenue Funds: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Downtown Development Authority (DDA), French Landing Improvement Project, Capital Improvement Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund, State Forfeiture Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, E-911 Service Fund, Cable Fund, Bemis Road Special Assessment District and Lohr Road Special Assessment District. Treasurer Budd stated budgets are all balanced.

Supervisor King stated the DDA 2005 budget expenditures were for bonds purchased for the new Fire Station 2 on Belleville Road and the refinancing of the existing bond for township hall and reviewed the DDA designated fund balances. Capital Improvements completed in 2005 include improvements to the township hall security system with transfers for Fire Station 1, a new telephone system and wide area data network. The Capital Improvement Fund balance for 2006 is approximately \$450,000. The Federal and State Forfeiture Funds are governed by Federal and State laws and are used for Public Safety purposes. The Landfill Fund Revenues from gate yard fees for the amended 2005 is approximately \$8.4 million. A transfer of \$3.3 million will be transferred into the General Fund for general operations. In addition, Designated General Fund Balance as follows: Public Safety for Fire Station 1 to be located on Sumpter and Hull Roads, property acquisition, future garbage collection/recycle/disposal, and retirement health care costs. Supervisor King stated the Belleville Area Museum is a joint venture with the City of Belleville and briefly reviewed the remaining Special Revenue Funds Budgets.

Clerk Payne inquired about the DDA refinance of bond. Director Kelley stated a lower interest rate and a shorten time period on repayment of the bonds resulted in increase savings.

There were no comments from the audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment and discuss possible projects for the fiscal year 2006-2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley for an explanation. Administrator Pugsley stated this is the first of two public hearings regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. These are some of the last Federal dollars that do come back to local communities. Administrator Pugsley stated we are seeking comments from the public for potential projects that would meet the CDBG funding guidelines. A preliminary list of projects from Department Directors were as follows: Community Services (camp programs); Senior Services (bus and Senior Services Administrator); Public Safety (road patrols in designated areas); Planning (master plan update); and Administration. Also, there is Housing Rehabilitation in the amount of \$50,000 (County wide program for low/moderate income families for assistance for home repairs). The three national objectives for projects are: to benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slum and/or blight and to meet urgent community needs. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) objectives of the CDBG program are for the development of viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities. The estimated funding level for the 2006 – 2007 fiscal year is \$132,000. The fiscal year begins on July 1, 2006 and applications are due to Wayne County CDBG by January 13, 2006. There will be a second public hearing on January 10, 2006. Residents are encouraged to submit ideas for possible projects to the Department of Developmental Services through Administrator Pugsley at 734.699.8913, in writing or via Van Buren Township's website at www.spuglsey@vanburen-mi.org.

Trustee Hart inquired about the monies available listed under urgent needs such as for Hurricane Katrina. Administrator Pugsley stated if a natural disaster occurred in the township the Board could request funds be moved into this category. Clerk Payne stated she would provide information on ADA compliant door bell assistance for polling locations that may be a viable request.

A resident inquired about the road patrol areas. Supervisor King stated there were two areas designated on the 2000 Census map eligible for funding. These areas incorporate Visteon Village and Willow Run Airport, which would probably not meet HUD criteria. The areas the township would include for road patrol would be for residential areas such as Parkwood Apartments and Kirkridge Condominiums. All program requests need Wayne County approval.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Herman moved, Jahr seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Hart moved, Budd seconded to open the public hearing to receive comment on establishing a Street Lighting Special Assessment District (SAD) to install and maintain streetlights in the Country Walk Condominiums Phases 1 and 2. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Director Kelley for an explanation. Director Kelley stated this is the first of two actions by the Board of Trustees to establish a Special Assessment District for installing and maintaining overhead street lighting in the Country Walk Condominiums for Phases 1 and 2. This development is located on Savage Road between Martinsville Road and Lenmoore Ave. This is an option available to developments in the township in which DTE Energy will install and maintain overhead street lighting and the homeowners are billed annually. This public hearing is to approve the Special Assessment District area. This replaces a previous request earlier this year at a lower cost with fewer street lights. If the district is approved a second public hearing will be held in January for spreading of the assessment roll. The Township uses the special assessment process to provide a method to collect payment for street lighting via the property tax bill. The initial capital outlay will be \$78,601.65 and is to be paid by the developer. The initial annual cost of \$11,179.16 is to be spread among the 177 single family units in Phase 1 and 120 multiple family units in Phase 2 with an annual cost of \$63.16 per unit.

Comments and questions from the audience. Residents of Country Walk inquired about how to oppose the street lighting assessment? Does the subdivision have to have street lights? Director Kelley stated residents may send letters to the township stating their opposition to the street lighting assessment, but that street lights are a requirement of site plan approval for subdivisions and are included in the master deed by laws. Director Kelley further stated there are many ways to provide street lights. He stated the DTE program would allow for the installation and all maintenance.

Continued on page 15

CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries

02. In Memoriam

03. Cards of Thanks

04. Monuments & Cemetery Plots

05. Announcements

06. Death Notices

07. Attorneys

08. Entertainment

09. Lost & Found

10. Coming Events

30. Help Wanted
11. Out of State Property

12. Commercial Lease

13. Real Estate Wanted

14. Auto Accessories

15. Autos for Sale

16. Antique & Classic Cars

17. Trucks & Vans for Sale

18. Freebies

19. Auto Repairs

120. Motorcycles

121. Autos Wanted
110. Lots for Sale

111. Out of State Property

112. Commercial Lease

113. Real Estate Wanted

114. Auto Accessories

115. Autos for Sale

116. Antique & Classic Cars

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10. Coming Events

30. Help Wanted
31. Help Wanted Sales

32. Help Wanted Drivers

33. Child Care

34. Specialized Services

35. Situations Wanted

40. Business Opportunity

42. Pawn Shops

43. Money to Loan

44. Music/Art Lessons

45. Private Tutoring

46. Private Instruction

47. Riding/Horses/Stables
50. Pets & Supplies

54. Rummage Sales

55. Estate Sales

56. Flea Markets

57. Antiques

58. Garage and Yard Sales

59. Auctions

60. Misc. Sales

61. Misc. Items

62. Building Supplies

63. Business and Office Equipment
64. Lawn & Garden Supplies

65. Tree Service

66. Landscape / Nurseries

67. Garden Plant / Supplies

68. Garden / Produce

70. Masonry / Brickwork

72. Machinery Tools

73. Musical Merchandise

74. Sporting Goods

75. Boats / Accessories

76. Remodeling & Renovations

77. Recreation Vehicles
78. Hunting / Fishing

82. Wanted to Buy

87. Room for Rent

88. Duplexes for Rent

89. Apartments for Rent

90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent

92. Business Places for Rent

93. Banquet Halls

94. Farm Land for Rent

95. Garages for Rent

96. Houses for Rent

97. Cottages for Rent
98. Mobile Homes for Rent

99. Flats for Rent

100. Will Share

101. Wanted to Rent

102. Storage

103. Business Property for Sale

104. Farms & Acreage for Sale

105. Mobile Homes for Sale

106. Houses for Sale

107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale

108. Lake and Resort

109. Income Property

30. Help Wanted

DEMONSTRATORS WANTED

for in-store events at Wal-Mart & other local retailers; Saturdays & Sundays, Daytime Hours. **BILINGUAL A PLUS.** Call 888-638-3568 M-F Please leave a message with area code, phone #, and names of cities/states around you.

MAINT. PERSON / GROUNDKEEPER

needed to work full-time for apartment complex. Must have experience in apt. maintenance, and be able to perform various tasks daily. Must be dependable and hard working with a good driving record. We offer benefits and 401K. Drug screening and criminal history required.

Please fax resume to:

Sycamore Meadows Apartments
Attn: Human Resources
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Fax: 734-483-7509

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Regional Runs Available. Excellent Pay & Benefits. Exp. Drivers, Teams, O/O & Students Welcome. Refrigerated Now Available. **888-MORE-PAY (1-888-667-3729).**

DRIVER - KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION. Looking for a New Job to start off the New Year? We have the regional drivers dream job!! *48 hours Home Time * 5-6 Days Out * 50% Drop & Hook * 100% Driver No Touch * Best Retirement Plan. 888-346-4639. www.knighttrans.com Class-A CDL/6 months OTR.

DRIVERS: Find a Dedicated Driving Job at www.HotDDJ.com. Spend more time at home in 2006! Search jobs and enter online to win a Polaris ATV & Other Prizes! Hear about jobs and enter by phone at 1-888-423-8446.

DRIVERS - SEMI-OTR DRIVERS Top pay for Experience. Benefits, Quality Home Time plus Reefer Regional and Dedicated positions for upper Midwest. Call Buske 1-800-879-2486 x 286

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

DRIVERS - SEMI-OWNER OPERATORS! Earn up to \$1.41 per mile. Free Base Plates, Permits, Qual-Com. No touch freight! Drivers, Check us Out. 1-877-613-6385 x286

DRIVERS: WE WILL PAY for your seniority. Short haul/regional. 98% No touch Freight. Have weekends off. Fuel, Performance, Safety Bonuses. CDL-A 1-877-341-4783

HELP WANTED: Want to work for a Michigan newspaper? Get a free weekly e-mail list of newspaper positions available. Visit michiganpress.org/subscribe.php

OWNER OPERATORS - SUNCO CARRIERS *\$1000 Sign On Bonus *100% Owner Operator *Run 5-State Midwest Region *Top % Pay Average \$1.45 Per Mile *Home Weekends *Fuel Discounts. Call Scott 800-908-8844.

WE'RE RAISING PAY to another level! Announcing \$.50/mile for all OTR miles everywhere! Heartland does it again! Year over-the-road experience required. Heartland Express 1-800-441-4953 www.heartlandexpress.com

ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE. Do you earn up to \$800/day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. Call 1-888-744-4651.

44. Music Lessons

Private Flute Lessons Professional & ethical teacher Teaching over 20 yrs. Teaching all levels (children & adults) Phd., Interlochen Alumni/Faculty Guaranteed lowest rates Studio locations in Plymouth & Royal Oak Call: 734-420-0031

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

Worship Directory

Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church

DISTRICT ELDER LUKE A. McCLENDON, PASTOR

Sunday

Sunday Morning Prayer (8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.)

Christian Education (9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.)

Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)

Nursery Room Available for Children 4 Years of Age and Under

29124 Eton Street • Westland, MI 48186 • 734-326-3833

Sunday School 10A.M. - Service 11A.M.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:30P.M.

Pastor Earl Duncan

Morningstar Church

28563 Pardo

Garden City, MI 48135

734-367-3029

59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given that on 1/26/06 at 1:30pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at: The Storroom Self Storage 40600 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI:

Unit #836
Michael Chapman
16 Misc. boxes/bags
3 Hand tools
2 Power tools
7 Recreation equipment
1 Lawn care equipment
1 Exercise equipment
6 Other misc. items

Unit #1009B
Christopher Leeny
2 Household furnishings
2 Misc. household goods
1 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Recreation equipment
1 Rolling tool chest
2 Hand tools

Unit #530
All Points Remodeling
13 Misc. boxes/bags
5 Hand tools
15 Power tools
3 Recreation equipment
1 Lawn care equipment
12 Other misc. items
1 Little quad
1 Sm. mini bike
1 Table saw

Unit #214
Harold Dubisky
1 Stove, 1 Dryer
12 Household furnishings
6 Misc. household goods
10 Misc. boxes/bags
3 Hand tools
1 Power tool
7 Recreation equipment
6 Other misc. items

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On JANUARY 3, 2006 the Westland Police Department will conduct public auctions of impounded abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00am at Westland Service Towing, 300 S. Newburgh, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1995 Ford Escort
2 Dr Green
1FASP11J8SW285098

1993 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Black
1FALP5340PG211971

1997 Mercury Tracer
4 Dr Purple
1MELM13P7VW610027

1997 Dodge Neon
2 Dr Black
1B3ES42Y3VD196818

1994 Pontiac Sunbird
2 Dr Blue
1G2JB14H0R7599530

1992 Ford Tempo
2 Dr Blue
1FAPP31X9NK185836

1986 Ford
PU Trk Red/White
1FTEX15HXGKB65154

1997 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Silver
1FALP52U9VA232013

1989 Plymouth Sundance
2 Dr Red
1P3BP44D7KN687976

1991 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Silver
1FACP50U5MG146955

1990 Ford Ranger
PU Trk Black
1FTCR15T6LPA58217

2002 Mitsubishi Lancer
4 Dr White
JA3AJ26E62U011689

1991 Cadillac Fleetwood
4 Dr Red
1G6CB53B2M4334517

1996 Chrysler Cirrus
4 Dr Green
1C3EJ56HXTN306034

The second auction will begin promptly at 11:00am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1992 Buick 3800
4 Dr Burgundy
2G4WF54L9N1505018

1986 Chevy Celebrity
4 Dr Gray
2G1AW19W4G1278276

1999 Ford Escort
4 Dr Black
1FAFP13P9XW178300

1997 Ford Windstar
Sta Wgn White
2FMDA5147VBC94432

1989 Ford Probe
2 Dr Red
1ZVBT21C1K5177485

32. Help Wanted - Drivers

REGIONAL FLATBED DRIVERS NEEDED

SMX

Home Weekends

Great Pay & Benefits

Min. 23yrs old, 1 yr. OTR CDL-A

800-247-8040

www.smxc.com

EOE

1996 Ford Contour
4 Dr White
1FALP6531TK172664

1994 Mercury Villager
Sta Wgn Gray
4M2DV11W0RDJ05990

1992 Ford T-Bird
2 Dr Teal
1FAPP6241NH137704

1993 Chevy Corsica
4 Dr Gray
1G1LT53T5PY274189

1993 Ford Escort
4 Dr Blue
3FAPP13J6PR106599

1993 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Gold
1FALP5214PG191036

1994 Buick Regal GS
2 Dr Blue
2G4WF15L3R1424044

1987 Nissan Maxima
4 Dr Red
JN1HU11P2HT310947

2000 Pontiac Grand Am
2 Dr Silver
1G2NE12T4YM717059

1990 Chevy Lumina
4 Dr White
2G1WN54TXL9104513

1996 Chevy Astrovan
Van White
1GCDM19W7TB149193

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

61. Misc. Items

Complete Pecan Bedroom Set
King Size Bed w/headboard/box springs/mattress, Double dresser w/large mirror Chest of drawers Excellent condition **MUST SELL!** \$300 or best Call: 248-349-0228

MUST SELL!
Beautiful Solid Pecan Dining Room Set Table, Captain's chair & 5 side chairs Includes beautiful lighted hutch \$350 or best 248-349-0228

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, HBO. Call 734-721-1220, Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100. Fairlane in Novi 248-347-9999

CANTON DAYS INN Low Daily, Weekly, and Monthly rates. Group & Corp. Rates Data ports, Nintendo and In-room movies Meeting room for up to 35 people Free deluxe breakfast Guest Laundry Microfridge in all rooms All local calls free Free High speed wireless internet. 40500 Michigan Ave. Exit 22 off I-275 734-721-5200 www.daysinnccanton.com

Nice & Clean College Dorm Style - \$85 to \$125 per week. Electricity & Gas included. Phone hookup available. Washer & Dryer. On Michigan Ave between Merriman and Henry Ruff. Private Entrance. Call: 734-777-3232 Ask for Dan

88. Duplexes For Rent

Large remodeled 3-bedroom duplex for rent near Palmer and Merriman 1250 Sq. Ft. \$675/mon. plus util. Call 248-703-1825

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

34. Specialized Services

BRATCHER ELECTRIC

COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956

Remodeling • Service • City Repairs

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734-722-0037

35728 Van Born • Wayne

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Serving Wayne & Oakland Counties since 1979

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Residential & Commercial

Licensed and Insured

Financing Available

57. Antiques

Motor City Antiques

Hours: Tues. - Sat. 10 - 6 Sun. Noon - 6

13431 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock MI 48134 (734) 782-4018

17,000 Sq. Ft. of Antiques & Collectibles

Over 100 Dealers

Come Visit our 950 Sq. Ft. FURNITURE ALLEY

Hours: Tues-Sat 10-6, Sun Noon-6

96. Houses For Rent

BELLEVILLE
Brick, all appliances
Pets negotiable
\$750

ROMULUS
3 Bedroom, air
Appliances, pets ok
\$750

RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

INKSTER
3 Bedroom, fireplace
Garage, opt 2 buy
\$600

INKSTER
3 Bedroom brick ranch
Basement, fenced
\$700

Many Homes Available

RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

INKSTER
Attention
Section 8 Renters
4 Bedroom Bungalow
New kitchen, windows,
bathroom & carpet
Ready for immediate
occupancy
\$750 moves you in
\$700 Sec. Dep.
Option to buy
Call 734-717-8284

**BOLD
PRINT
ATTRACTS
MORE READERS!**

WAYNE
Ranch, appliances
Fenced 4 pets
\$700
WAYNE
3 Bedroom, air
Appliances, remodeled
\$795
All Cities Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

WESTLAND
Ranch, garage, air
Opt 2 buy
\$650
WESTLAND
Available Now!
Garage, fence 4 pets
\$700
Several Homes
Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

118. Freebies

8.5' Truck camper
!!FREE!!
734-641-4808

Your 2-line ad here
Absolutely free
Runs for 1 week for any
item selling for \$75 or less.

Call 734-467-1900
to place your
classified ad.

Need extra help?
Advertise in our classified
help wanted section.
Call 467-1900. TODAY!

89. Apartments for Rent

**Attention Seniors
Westgate Tower**

is offering
One Bedroom Apartments for
Persons 62 and older starting at
just \$367 per month!*

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Obituaries

DUFORD, Patricia

Patricia Sue DuFord, 67, of Whitmore Lake, formerly of Belleville, died Nov. 30.

Among her survivors are her companion, Brian Spencer; her daughter, Terri L. (Gary) Leirstein of Pinckney, and grandchildren, Tara, Rebecca and Keith Leirstein, all of Pinckney.

Mrs. DuFord was a charter member of Belleville Presbyterian Church where funeral services took place for her with the Rev. Deborah V. Kerr officiating.

Mrs. DuFord was a 1957 graduate of Belleville High School and studied at the Royal

Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada where she received her teaching certificate.

She taught in the Belleville area for many years and one of her students was a national champion.

Cremation rites were accorded.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

GIFFIN, Marion

Marion Annive Giffin, 81, of Sumpter Township, died Dec. 5.

Among her survivors are her children, Beverly Phillips of Allen Park and Michael (Joy)

Giffin of Belleville; a brother, Lloyd (Margie) Fidler of Missouri; eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Giffin was working on a reference book comparing the Old Testament of the Bible to the New Testament. She was a member of Faith Lutheran Church of Troy.

Interment was at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.

Local arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

COLLINS, George

George L. Collins, 86, of

Dearborn, died Dec. 14.

Among his survivors are his son, Edward F. Collins of Dearborn; a sister, Mary Ann Stewart of Flushing; many nieces and nephews, including Kathie (Marvin) Steigerwald, president of the Belleville Central Business Community.

Mr. Collins retired from Ford Motor Co where he worked as a purchaser at the Glass House in Dearborn. He was a member of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, the Gaelic League, the Irish-American Club, St. Patrick's Senior Center and was a St. Gregory alumnus.

Mr. Collins served in the U.S.

Army Air Corps during World War II as a staff sergeant and was decorated for his service to his country many times.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at St. Joseph Cemetery in Gaines.

WILLIAMS, Willie

Willie Williams, 88, of Belleville, died Aug. 28.

The Rev. James Thompson officiated at services at the Penn Funeral Home for Mr. Williams.

Interment was at Metropolitan Memorial Park in Belleville.

Continued from page 12

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

MINUTES: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of November 14, 2005 as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2005 as presented. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Payne seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of December 5, 2005 as presented. Carried.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to approve the Closed Session Minutes of December 5, 2005 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Growth Works representatives gave a presentation of the Wayne County Delinquency Program as it relates to youth in Van Buren Township and Western Wayne County. The chairman of the Juvenile Justice Program and Belleville Mayor Tom Fielder discussed the importance of this program.

Service awards were given to the following employees Doug Doty, John Rose, Christina Harman, Judy Fields and Louis Keele for 10 years of service and Patti Duha for 5 years of service.

Director Ross announced Supervisor King has been voted the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association Local Elected Official of the Year.

Director Champagne stated he received a call from a resident expressing thanks to Sergeant Yono for assistance provided while the resident was taking he daughter to the hospital.

Director Champagne stated members of the Fire Department are at the Red Wings Hockey game tonight with Denver Jackson. Denver is a local youth who has been battling leukemia and has been raising money for the Fire Department. To date Denver has surpassed his goal and raised \$10,100 for the Fire Department.

Director Champagne reminded residents to be aware of their wallets and pursues while shopping.

A resident commended Sergeant Yono for his work on the Police Department and supports the new traffic unit. He further stated the Wilkerson family who resides in the Country Walk Subdivision lost everything in a recent fire and any assistance from the community would be welcomed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve Proclamation 2005-37 honoring Chesley Odom. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the formation of a four person traffic unit consisting of one sergeant and three officers and to hire four new officers to replace the members of the traffic unit. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve the 2005 Amended General Fund Budget and the 2006 Proposed General Fund Budget, as outlined in Treasurer Budd's memo dated November 22, 2005, noting items A through F inclusive. Carried.

Hart moved, Payne seconded to approve the 2005 Amended Special Revenue Fund Budgets and the 2006 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets [CDBG, DDA, French Landing Improvement Project, Capital Improvement Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund, State Forfeiture Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, 911 Service Fund, Cable Fund, Bemis Road Special Assessment District and Lohr Road Special Assessment District], as outlined in Treasurer Budd's memo dated November 10, 2005, noting items A through C inclusive. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Water & Sewer Fund amended 2005 Budget and the Water & Sewer Fund proposed 2006 Budget. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Herman seconded to adopt Resolution 2005-38 to establish a Special Assessment District (SAD) for the purpose of installing and maintaining streetlights in the Country Walk Condominiums Phases 1 and 2. Carried.

Hart moved, Herman seconded to adopt Resolution 2005-39 Township Fee Schedule.

Carried.

Budd moved, Payne seconded to approve the Capital Improvements Plan. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Payne, Budd and King. Nays: Rochowiak, Hart, Jahr and Herman. Absent: None. Motion Fails.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to order the Capital Improvement Plan received and filed. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to adopt the 2006 Holiday Calendar. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the reappointments of Sharon Curson and Beverly Yurchak to the Board of Canvassers with terms to expire December 31, 2009. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the Treasurer's request to extend without penalty the collection of the 2005 winter taxes through Tuesday, February 28, 2006. Carried.

Jahr moved, Herman seconded to adopt Resolution 2005-40 Opposing the elimination of Local Control of Municipal Broadband and Cable Franchising. Carried.

Hart moved, Budd seconded to adopt Resolution 2005-41 Social Security Number Privacy Policy. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve to approve the lot split of parcel V125-83-011-01-0035-001, part of Lots 35 and 36 of Seymour and Troesters Subdivision in accordance with the Parcel Division Board memorandum dated December 6, 2005, specifically noting items one through six. Carried.

Payne moved, Hart seconded to approve the contract from Basic Flex for the implementation and administration of a Cafeteria 125 Plan and flexible spending accounts and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the documents. Carried.

Budd moved, Herman seconded to reinstate the Van Buren Township Open Space Committee, for the year of 2006 ending December 31, 2006 in accordance with the bylaws adopted on April 20, 2004; and to approve the reappointment of Phil Miller with term to expire December 31, 2006. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the December 6, 2005 and December 20, 2005 voucher lists as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the October 2005 Budgetary, October 2005 Public Safety and 2004-2005 Open Space Reports received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th for the Christmas Holiday and on Friday, December 30th and Monday, January 2nd for the for the New Year holiday.

The Recreation Department is offering Jazzerize classes for more information contact the Recreation Department at 699.8921.

The Township Board wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Two residents of Haggerty Road voiced their views and concerns about the southern portion of the township remaining rural and more specifically a parcel of land more commonly know as the Horste Property and its potential for development. Supervisor King and Director Kelley explained the difference between the zoning map and the future land use map, which is part of the Master Plan. Further, there has not been a site plan application for a development on Haggerty Road.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Payne moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 11:42 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor

Publish: December 29, 2005

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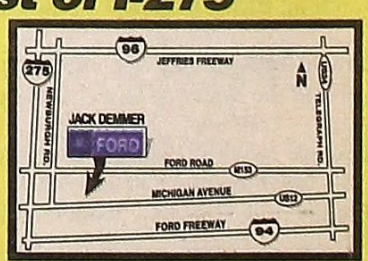
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